

## Message Text

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63

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 ORM-02 DHA-02 VO-03

INSE-00 SCA-01 /087 W

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R 110043Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6711

UNCLAS MEXICO 10278

DEPT PLEASE PASS INS

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, ELAB, MX

SUBJECT: UNDOCUMENTED MIGRATION: REPORTED INTERVIEW WITH INS  
OFFICIAL  
IN TEXAS

1. MEXICO'S NEWSMEN HAVE RANGED FAR AND WIDE TO SEEK COMMENT  
ON SUPPOSED NEW "MASSIVE DEPORTATION" OF UNDOCUMENTED  
MIGRANTS FROM US. ON AUGUST 9, EXCELSIOR CARRIED INTERVIEW  
IN EL PASO WITH SUPERVISORY DETENTION OFFICER, EL PASO,  
J. HAROLD SMITH, WHO TOLD INTERVIEWER SOMETHING QUITE  
DIFFERENT FROM WHAT HE EXPECTED TO HEAR.

2. SMITH EMPHASIZED THAT HE HAD "NO INSTRUCTIONS" TO  
UNDERTAKE MASSIVE DEPORTATION OF UNDOCUMENTED MEXICAN  
MIGRANTS. HE ADDED THAT APPREHENSION OF ILLEGALS WAS  
OCCURRING AT ABOUT THE SAME RATE AS ALWAYS. FOR THIS  
REASON, HE WAS SURPRISED AT NEWS REPORTS OUT OF MEXICO  
OVER DEPORTATIONS ON A MASSIVE SCALE.

3. SMITH SUGGESTED (CORRECTLY) THAT THERE WAS MISUNDERSTANDING  
IN MEXICO OF EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM BEGUN JULY 19 AND, HE NOTED  
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THAT HIS ORDERS WITH REGARD TO THIS PROGRAM PROVIDED FOR

VOLUNTARY AIR REPatriATION WITH TICKETS PAID BY USG FOR  
UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS HAVING NO FAMILY MEMBERS IN US AND  
WHO WERE OWED NO BACK WAGES BY EMPLOYERS.

4. SMITH SHOWED HSWAUSNOY AROUND DETENTION CENTER AT  
EL PASO AND APPARENTLY PRERMITTED HIM TO INTERVIEW  
LUNCH ROOM COOK--WITH POSITIVE RESULTS IN TERMS OF COPY  
FILED BY REPORTER DESCRIBING RELATIVE COMFORTS OF LIFE AT  
CENTER.

5. COMMENT: NET EFFECT OF INTERVIEW WITH SMITH WHICH  
EXCELSIOR CARRIED ON PAGE ONE WAS WHOLLY POSITIVE, AND  
WE OWE HIM A DEBT OF GRATITUDE FOR HAVING CLARIFIED FOR  
MEXICO CITY READERS, AT LEAST, THE CHARACTER OF AIR  
REPatriATION AND CURRENT INS ACTIVITIES IN GENERAL.  
EMBASSY HOPES INS WILL MAKE KNOWN ITS PLEASURE TO  
MR. SMNEH.  
JOVA

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, EXPULSION, MIGRATORY WORKERS, ALLEGATIONS, PENAL INSTITUTIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 AUG 1976  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**TAGS:** PBOR, ELAB, MX, US, INS, (SMITH, J HAROLD)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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